

393

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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USAF review completed.

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1. A paratrooper unit called "Unitatea de Parasutisti" was stationed at Buzau Airfield (N 45-08. E 26-48) near the forest called "La Crang". [redacted] this unit [redacted] the only one of its kind within the Rumanian Air Force; it was composed of two battalions which had a total of approximately 250 men, including officers and EM.

25X1

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2. Locotenent Colonel Tetcu (fnu) was the chief of paratroopers at the Rumanian Air Force Headquarters in Bucharest. The CO of the paratroop unit at Buzau was a major, name unknown. One of the battalion COs was Locotenent Major Iuliu Bratu whose brother, Locotenent Major Genone Bratu, was stationed at the Escadrila 347 Hidroaviatie [redacted]

25X1

3. The paratroopers wore the same uniform as the members of the Rumanian Air Force; their insignia was worn on the right breast (see page 3 for [redacted] sketch of this insignia). In addition to their regular military uniform, each paratrooper was issued:

25X1

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a. One pair of boots which were specially made and which had no heels.

b. One crash helmet (casca de parasutist).

c. One dagger-type knife.

4. Each man used two Rumanian-made Aurel Vlaicu parachutes (chest and back). [redacted] no information about the weapons carried by the paratroopers during jumps. The unit had no aircraft of any type;

25X1

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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-2-

25X1

however, the transport regiment at Bucharest/Pipera Airfield (N 44-29, E 26-07) assigned two or three aircraft, LI-2s and Junker-52s, together with their crews, whenever needed by the paratroop unit.

5. The paratroopers were mostly those draftees who in civilian life had completed training at the parachute-jumping school (scoala de parasutisti) which was a branch of the Voluntary Association for the Support and Defense of the Fatherland (Asociatia Voluntara pentru Sprijin si Apararea Patriei - AVSAP). There were four parachute-jumping schools throughout Rumania [redacted] the location of only two -- the school at Ghimbay (N 45-40, E 25-31) [redacted] and the school at Popesti/Leordeni (N 44-23, E 26-11). All of these schools issued a parachute jumpers' license, called "brevet de parasutist", to graduates. [redacted] no information about the actual training of paratroopers at Buzau. [redacted] they were being trained for day and night jumping in all weather conditions, jumping behind enemy lines, and as shock troops.

25X1

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5. All Rumanian Air Force personnel on flying status made at least two mandatory jumps yearly under the direct supervision of Lt. Col. Tetou. Tetou was normally at Rumanian Air Force Headquarters (CFAM) in Bucharest but visited each air force unit once a year. Tetou used a Junker-52 aircraft which had a crew of six -- one pilot, one co-pilot, and one navigator, all of whom were officers, as well as one flight engineer, one radioman, and one jumpmaster, all of whom were NCOs.

7. Throughout the year, the flying personnel of each air force unit was required to attend classes on: (a) parachute description, (b) jump technics, and (c) theoretical discussion on parachute landing falls. These classes were held under the supervision of officers appointed by Tetou. [redacted] the officer in charge of these classes was Locotenent Remus Munteanu, who had previously trained with the paratroop unit at Buzau. When Tetou visited the [redacted] unit, he first conducted a review of the subjects which had been discussed in classes by questioning each man personally. Together with his jumpmaster, an NCO, he checked every man's chute before he boarded the aircraft. Parachutes with static line were used for jumping and jumps were made from a height of 1,000 m. These jumps were called "salt automat". A free-fall jump, during which the jumper opened his chute himself, was called "salt comandat", but this jump was never executed at [redacted] unit.

25X1

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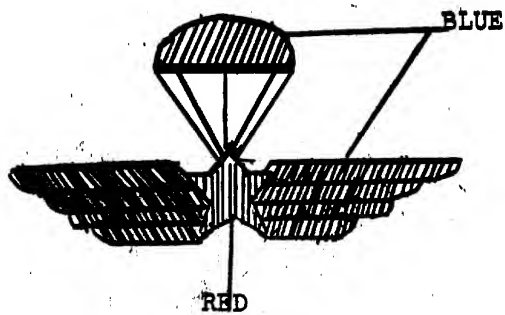
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-3-

25X1

Sketch of Rumanian Air Force Paratrooper's Insignia

25X1



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